

By

Henty

H.C.R. No.

40

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, One of the distinguished Delegates of the
2 Constitutional Convention of Texas, 1974, and ^{Texas} Dean of the Texas
3 House of Representatives, the Honorable Menton J. Murray of
4 Harlingen retired from the Texas Legislature at the close of his
5 term in December, 1974; and

6 WHEREAS, Having rounded out more than 25 years of legislative
7 service to the people of his hometown of Harlingen and all of
8 Cameron County, this illustrious statesman, civic and religious
9 leader, and highly respected attorney has achieved widespread
10 recognition for his dedication and ability on behalf of his
11 constituents and all the people of Texas; and

12 WHEREAS, When first elected to the House of Representatives
13 in 1948 as a member of the 51st Legislature, the then freshman
14 member became involved in one of the longest continuous regular
15 sessions of all time: the Constitution at that time permitted
16 a session of 120 days at full pay of \$10 per day, and then \$5 a
17 day thereafter. The regular session of the 51st Legislature
18 lasted for 200 days; and

19 WHEREAS, Representatives and Senators worked almost without
20 ceasing on the giant task of reorganizing Texas public schools
21 through the landmark legislation now known as the Gilmer-Aikin
22 Bill; and

23 WHEREAS, This indoctrination into the legislative process
24 has served Menton well, and he learned that the quiet, sincere

1 approach permitting compromise which does not do violence to
2 stated goals is often more effective than oratory and driving
3 leadership; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Murray's interest in education led
5 to other innovations in the public schools, one of the most
6 farseeing being the bill he worked to get enacted which created
7 the school for the 300, the nucleus of what later became known
8 as "Head Start"; ^{STET} he also worked long and hard obtaining higher
9 salaries and better retirement benefits for Texas teachers, as
10 well as authoring legislation to permit the retired teachers to
11 substitute in the schools, thus keeping at work for the Texas
12 school system the vast amount of experience of retired educators;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, As chairman of the Committee on Higher Education
15 in Texas, he worked to bring about the creation of more junior
16 or community colleges in the state, so that today there is not
17 a student who lives more than 50 miles from one of these centers
18 of education; he served as chairman of the House standing Higher
19 Education Committee for two terms and continued his diligence on
20 behalf of public and higher education; he was also successful in
21 getting the Texas State Technical Institute for the Valley area
22 located in Harlingen; and

23 WHEREAS, He was interested in the well-being of the sick
24 and the retarded, and it was through his advocacy that the
25 Harlingen Chest Hospital was located in his city as well as the
26 State Hospital for Mental Health and Retardation; and

27 WHEREAS, A bill sponsored by Representative Murray led to

1 the construction of Queen Isabela Causeway to Padre Island, a
2 mecca for sports fishermen and tourists from all over the United
3 States; he worked hard as chairman of the Conservation and
4 Reclamation Committee of the House of Representatives in trying
5 to ease the water shortages in some areas of Texas by sharing
6 with them the water of those areas with overabundance; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Murray's service to his fellow
8 citizens did not begin with his legislative career: following
9 his graduation from The University of Texas School of Law in 1931,
10 after completing his pre-law courses at Rice University where he
11 was editor of the Rice Thresher, he practiced law in Harlingen
12 until World War II erupted, when he enlisted in the United States
13 Navy with the rank of Lieutenant, Junior Grade; he served at
14 Hollywood Beach, Florida, at the Communications School at Harvard,
15 and in Norfolk, Virginia, before being shipped out with the Seventh
16 Fleet to Leyte Gulf off the Philippine Islands in 1945; and

17 WHEREAS, Earlier, in 1937, he had married the former Betty
18 Nosler of San Benito, and when he returned to the United States
19 in February, 1946, it was just in time to see his young son,
20 Menton, Jr., celebrate his fourth birthday; and

21 WHEREAS, His leadership has long been felt in civic affairs,
22 and he served as co-chairman of the Harlingen Community Chest for
23 several terms during the 40 years he worked to benefit this
24 charitable organization; he continued his efforts for the United
25 Fund, which succeeded the Community Chest, and is a longtime
26 member of the Harlingen Lions Club and the Harlingen Chamber of
27 Commerce; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Murray has dedicated much of his
2 time to the work of his church, having served as Grand Knight of
3 Keralum Council, Knights of Columbus, and being recognized for
4 his service in 1946 by his initiation into the highest order of
5 the Knights of Columbus, the Fourth Degree, later becoming the
6 Master of the Fourth Degree Assemblies in South Texas, an honor
7 he held for six years; and

8 WHEREAS, He has also participated in the lighter affairs
9 of his community: he was a member and served as president of the
10 Los Amigos Social Club, and starred as Ernest in the Junior Study
11 Club's money-making project play, "The Importance of Being Ernest";
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Members of the Legislature have long known Menton
14 and his wife, Betty, as devoted parents to their children, Menton⁵
15 Jr., and Betty Murray Smith, and have now seen that same devotion
16 evidenced in the Murrays' love for and pride in their two
17 grandchildren: little Menton Murray III (Trey), son of Lori and
18 Menton Murray, Jr., and Stephanie Smith, daughter of Betty and
19 Harold Smith of Nashville, Tennessee; and

20 WHEREAS, The Members of the Texas Legislature wish to
21 extend good wishes to Representative Menton Murray ^{on leaving} ~~as he leaves~~
22 legislative halls and ^{concluding} ~~concludes~~ his long tenure as a Member of
23 the Texas House of Representatives; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 64th
25 Texas Legislature, the Senate concurring, hereby commend the
26 notable service of the Honorable Menton J. Murray of Harlingen
27 as a member of the Constitutional Convention and express

1 appreciation to him on behalf of all the people of Texas for his
2 dedication during the more than 25 years he has devoted himself
3 to the betterment of Texas state government; and, be it further

4 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be
5 prepared for the Honorable Menton J. Murray, ^{former} Dean of the House
6 of Representatives of the Texas Legislature, and Delegate to the
7 Constitutional Convention of Texas, 1974.

FEB 18 1975

Add names of all members

HCR # 40

Jeremy Hallman
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

ENROLLED

H.C.R. No. 40

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Clayton	Craddick	Henderson
Adams	Davis	Hendricks
Agnich	Delco	Hernandez
Allen	Denson	Hilliard
Allred	Denton	Hoestenbach
Atkinson	Donaldson	Hollowell
Bailey	Dramberger	Hubenak
Baker	Earle	Hudson
Barrientos	Edwards	Hutchison
Bigham	Evans	Johnson
Bird	Ezzell	Jones of Harris
Blake	Finney	Jones of El Paso
Blythe	Florence	Kaster
Bock	Fox	Korioth
Boone	Garcia of Hidalgo	Kubiak
Brown	Garcia of Bexar	Laney
Bryant	Gaston	Lary
Bynum	Geiger	Lauhoff
Caldwell	Gilley	Leland
Canales	Grant	Lewis
Caraway	Green of Navarro	McAlister
Cartlidge	Green of Harris	McBee
Cartwright	Hale	McDonald of Hidalgo
Cates	Hall of Harris	McDonald of Dallas
Chavez	Hall of Webb	Madla
Clark of Smith	Hanna	Maloney
Clark of Harris	Harris	Mankins
Close	Hartung	Martin
Coleman	Head	Massey
Coody	Heatly	Mattox

Mayes	Ragsdale	Tarbox
Miller	Rains	Temple
Montoya	Reyes	Thompson
Moreno	Reynolds	Torres
Munson	Ribak	Truan
Nabers	Rucker	Uher
Newton	Salem	Vale
Nichols	Schieffer	Vaughan
Nowlin	Semos	Vick
Nugent	Sherman	Von Dohlen
O'Kelley	Short	Washington
Olson	Simpson	Waters
Parker of Jefferson	Slack	Watson
Parker of Denton	Slay	Weddington
Pentony	Smith	Whitehead
Peveto	Spurlock	Whitmire
Polumbo	Stubbeman	Wieting
Powers	Sullivant	Willis
Presnal	Sutton	Wilson
Preston	Tanner	Wyatt

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that H.C.R. No. 40 was adopted by the House on February 18, 1975, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

H.C.R. No. 40

I hereby certify that H.C.R. No. 40 was adopted by the
Senate on February 19, 1975.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 2-25-75
Date

Signed
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
3:10 p.m. O'CLOCK

FEB 25 1975
Mark White
Secretary of State

H. C. R. No.

40

C

By

Hentley

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Commending the Honorable Menton J. Murray.

FEB 10 1975

1. Filed with the Chief Clerk of the House.
2. Read first time and referred to Committee on _____
3. Reported favorable (unfavorably) (as amended) and sent to Printer at _____ M.
4. Printed, distributed, and sent to { Committee on _____
Speaker of the House.
5. Read and (adopted) ~~(failed)~~ (as amended) by (non-record vote)
(Record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present
and not voting.)

Dorothy Halloran

Chief Clerk of the House

FEB 18 1975

6. Sent to Engrossing Clerk.

2/18/75

7. Engrossed.

Anna Saffin

Engrossing Clerk of the House

FEB 18 1975

8. Returned to Calendar Clerk.

FEB 18 1975

9. Sent to Senate.

FEB 19 1975

SENT TO ENROLLING CLERK

FEB 18 1975

10. Received from the House.

11. Read first time and referred to Committee on _____

12. Reported favorably.

13. Ordered not printed by the Senate.

FEB 19 1975

14. Immediate consideration ordered by (unanimous consent)

ADD NAMES OF THE LT. GOV.

(_____ years, _____ days)

FEB 19 1975

AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE SENATE

15. Read and adopted.

Charles Schnabel
Secretary of the Senate

FEB 19 1975

16. Returned to the House.

RETURNED FROM SENATE FEB 19 1975

Joseph Hallman
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

FEB 19 1975

SENT TO ENROLLING CLERK 1

1st